Thank You, Preceptors!

Each year in May, we graduate another doctor of pharmacy class and another group of eager student pharmacists begin their Advanced and Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE and IPPE). Our program would not be complete without the tireless efforts of our preceptors. We send our greatest appreciation to our preceptors for the guidance, teaching, mentoring, and role modeling provided to our students over the past year. THANK YOU!!

In this issue of the newsletter, we are highlighting a couple of new policies for our experiential program. First, we are beginning to use more functions within E*Value, including the PxDx program which allows students to track interventions performed during their experiences. Additionally, we have a new policy for interview days for APPE students. These items are highlighted on page 3.

University of Iowa College of Pharmacy Class of 2010
Precepting Tools: Mobile Learning

As we all know, the use of technology is growing faster than ever. Student pharmacists can be some of the most savvy tech users and learning through the use of technology can create dynamic learning environments. Student pharmacists use mobile devices to facilitate learning in many different ways—to look up an unfamiliar medication, to make a note to review a topic later, or to log in interventions through E*Value.

While using mobile devices can sometimes be distracting, it is a good idea to think about how you as a preceptor want students to use (and not to use) their mobile devices while at your practice site. We have policies in our syllabus regarding the use of mobile devices for personal reasons (i.e. “personal cell phones should be turned off or placed in silent mode during the rotation working hours”). However, students may have programs on their mobile devices that may be used for professional, patient care-related reasons. You may want to review some rules of etiquette for students who wish to use mobile devices for professional-related reasons at your practice site.

- Electronic devices should be only used for purposes relevant to the practice site
- Require students to silence any ringer, alarm, notification
- Ask student to share his/her research findings with the team/group
- Ask student a question and tell him/her to answer without looking at his/her mobile device
- Remind students that mobile devices can distract patients, families, and other healthcare providers
- Establish areas where the use is not allowed (e.g. in patient care areas)
- Establish consequences for inappropriate use

Another way to control use of these mobile devices is to ask students at the beginning of the rotation what type of quick-reference they plan to use. If they plan to use an iphone, mobile device, etc, be sure to review your expectations of use with the students.

Practice Site Visits

We are planning our upcoming site visits. If you would like your site to be visited by PEP faculty or staff please contact Susan Vos (susan-staggs@uiowa.edu)
What’s New with E*Value™?
The E*Value™ PxDx Case Logger™

This year, we will begin using the PxDx Case Logger™ in E*Value™. PxDx™ is an online tracking method for APPE students to track their interventions and patient care activities. While we encourage students to use this logging system as much as they desire, we require APPE students to log interventions at least one day per week.

Preceptors can see what types of activities APPE students are doing at their sites by asking students for reports on their activities.

More information about PxDx™ will be coming in our next newsletter. Help-documents are available in E*Value to assist students in tracking their interventions.

Policy Updates and Reminders:

Interview Days:
This year, we added a rotation break for our P4 students (February 7-25, 2011). This break is intended to serve as a time for students to complete residency, fellowship, or job interviews. Students also have their “bye” cycle for interviews. Therefore, any student who must interview during one of his/her APPEs must complete a formal request to our office prior to the start of the rotation. Preceptors will continue to be involved in the decision to allow the student to interview during their rotation. This policy can be found in the APPE syllabus and the Preceptor Manual.

Honors for APPE Students:
May of 2010 marked the end of our second year using the Honors-Pass-Fail grading system for our P4 APPEs. As a reminder, in order to give a student an ‘Honors’ designation, preceptors must provide comments in the sections that represent why the student should receive this high designation. Honors evaluations that do not have comments will be sent back to the preceptor for further information.

If you have any questions regarding either of these policies, please email or call our office (cop-iowa-prof-exp@uiowa.edu or 319-353-5157).
We gain strength, and courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face... we must do that which we think we cannot.

~~Eleanor Roosevelt~~

Tech Tools: Natural Standard

Natural Standard provides evidence-based information about complementary and alternative therapies and was founded by clinicians and researchers. The Natural Standard Research Collaboration mission is to provide objective, reliable information that helps clinicians, patients, and healthcare institutions to make more informed and safer therapeutic decisions.

As part of the resources available to our preceptors, Natural Standard is available for use by going to http://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/pharmacypreceptor and clicking on “Natural Standard” in the middle of the page.

Natural Standard provides our preceptors with the tools to make informed decisions regarding complementary and alternative therapies.

If you are interested in hosting student pharmacists at your practice site for a service learning activity, such as a diabetes screening or immunization clinic, please contact our office.

cop-iowa-prof-exp@uiowa.edu
319-353-5157
Preceptor Development Opportunities

Don’t forget about all the great preceptor development opportunities available to all University of Iowa Preceptors. And, remember, these are free to all University of Iowa Preceptors.

The programs are available online by going to www.TheCEInstitute.org/preceptor.aspx.

Here is a preview of what is currently available through The Collaborative Education Institute (CEI) website:

- Preceptor Development Core Modules for the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy
- Effective Precepting: Integrating Adult Learning Strategies into Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences
- Ethics for Preceptors
- A Fine Line: Walking the Tightrope of Appropriate Pain Management
- A Prescription for Preceptors: Healing the Generational Divide
- Assisting Students in Migraine Management
- Demonstrating Cultural Competence
- Developing & Implementing an Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience
- Mentoring: Helping Students Create a Career in Pharmacy
- Rational Antibiotic Use: A Primer (Bugs & Drugs)
- When You See it in the News: How to Scientifically Interpret Published Studies

For complete instructions on accessing these CPE programs free of charge, please see the document posted in E*value by going to “Documents”→ “Preceptor Resources”→ and select “CEI Preceptor CE Instructions”.

Check your E*Value Site Listing

Please be sure to update your site description in E*Value if anything about your rotation has changed. Please contact Lisa DuBrava if you have any changes in your site description (lisa-dubrava@uiowa.edu)
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*Responsible for new faculty appointments and appointment renewals, online rotation management system and administrative components of the program.*